THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) The Act for setting up a National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities has come into existence with effect from 30-12-1999. The process of setting up the Trust has been started.

(b) to (d) The Members of the Board will be selected in the prescribed categories under Section 3(4) of the Act on the basis of their expertise and experience in the required field.

(e) The Government will focus on the needs of persons with autism, cerebral palsy, mental retardation and multiple disabilities for upholding their rights, to promote their development and to safeguard their interest. The performance and activities of the Trust will be monitored under the provisions of the National Trust for Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act, 1999.

Wakf Property Exempted from Rent Control Act

2540. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU) :

MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI :

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the states in which the Wakf property has been exempted from the Rent Control Act;

(b) the States where it has not been exempted; and

(c) the steps taken to get it exempted in all the States.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) :

(a) Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Pondichery & Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Orissa, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Lakshadweep, Nagaland, Mizoram, Goa, Daman & Diu, Sikkim, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, West Bengal, Chandigarh, Delhi, Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura, Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(c) Rent control is a State subject. However, this Ministry has been pursuing those State/UT Govts. who have not considered exemption, to consider exemption of Wakf properties from the operation of Rent Control Enactments in the respective State/UTs.

Extention of Public Premises Act to Wakf Properties

2541. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU) :

MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI :

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to get the Public Premises Act extended to Wakf properties; and

(b) the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Assistance to Handicapped Persons

2542. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed by her Ministry to grant assistance to physically handicapped persons;

(b) whether the criteria has been revised; and

(c) the number of such persons who got assistance from her Ministry in the last three years; State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) The Ministry grants financial assistance to non-governmental organizations under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary action for Persons with Disability and the Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase/fitting of Aids and Appliances. Under these schemes assistance is considered on specific application from the non-governmental organizations for various projects in the area of education, training, rehabilitation services and provision of aids and appliances